



GARY R. HERBERT  
Governor

GREGORY S. BELL  
Lieutenant Governor

# State of Utah

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

MICHAEL R. STYLER  
Executive Director

### Division of Oil, Gas and Mining

JOHN R. BAZA  
Division Director

March 21, 2012

John Spencer  
Simplot Phosphate LLC  
9401 North Highway 191  
Vernal, Utah 84078

Subject: Release of Reclaimed Area, Simplot Phosphate LLC., Vernal Phosphate Operation, M/047/0007, Uintah County, Utah

Dear Mr. Spencer:

The Division of Oil, Gas and Mining approves your request received November 22, 2011, for full release of the following areas at the Vernal Phosphate Operation:

- Panel 1 13.2 acres
- Panel 2 7.4 acres
- Panel 3 7.9 acres
- Panel 4 30.0 acres
- Total – 58.5 acres

Photo documentation included with form MR-SITE shows good establishment of perennial vegetation in these areas though the Division will still plan to field verify the amount of vegetation cover and the species that have established.

As per your request, the Division is not releasing any surety at this time but will apply the surety to future exploration and mining activities at panel B. The surety excess may be applied to future amendments to your Notice of Intention.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this letter, please contact me at 801-538-5261 or Leslie Heppler at 801-538-5257. In response, Please reference our file number M/047/0007 regarding this project.

Sincerely,

Paul B. Baker  
Minerals Program Manager

PBB:lah:pb

P:\GROUPS\MINERALS\WP\M047-Uintah\M0470007-Simplot\final\REL-4519-03202012.doc

